# CONFERENCE '78

*Following our recent Conference for Officers, wives and their families, I (the Editor) asked several people their impressions. Those I asked were Captain Chris Thiele (a young Officer at his first Conference), Mark Rogers (half-way through training to be an Officer), and Miss Pat Byron (Board Member, College Committee Member and occasional College Lecturer). Pat stayed at Conference for 2 days, led one of the Electives on Wednesday and generally joined in.*

*For your background information, the Conference programme went like this:-*

| SATURDAY | SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Arrive, introductions, "ice-breaking". | Commissioning of new Officer, Sharing session, Evening Service. | Key-note Address from the Chaplain & discussion of it. Annual General Meeting. | Sharing Day - the good things, as well as any problems, new ideas, etc. | Inservice Learning Day - Electives including Counselling, Preaching, Bible Studies, Planning Effectively. | Action Day - A "Theology of Evangelism" & some facts and figures. A children's beach programme. An address on "Prayer" | Looking at the Future. Thanksgiving Service Farewell. |

*Following is "Conference", as seen by the three people mentioned above.*

## From Captain Chris Thiele -

Editor: *Chris, this was the first Church Army Conference that you've been to, wasn't it?*

Captain Thiele: Yes, that's right.

Editor: *What were your impressions?*

Captain Thiele: I felt very much that God's Spirit was upon the Conference in such a way that people were considerate of other people's needs and were very much challenged for the future of Church Army and their own personal future.

Editor: *If you had been an onlooker, how do you think you would have seen the Conference as part of the ongoing ministry of the Church?*

Captain Thiele: I think I would have been hopeful, because I know one or two onlookers were greatly challenged by the Spirit of God. And I felt very much that if we had been onlooking, we could have seen that the Society as a whole was being challenged to look at itself, its aims and where it's going in the future, which is very exciting.

Editor: *Do you think it's worthwhile having a Conference of this sort for the Church Army?*

Captain Thiele: Well, it's so worthwhile it should be more often, but unfortunately that's a bit impossible.

Editor: *How will it affect your ministry, when you go back to your Parish?*

Captain Thiele: Well, for the first 12 months as an Officer, I was thinking about certain things I'd like raised and thought about by others in the Church Army. These things were raised, and that encouraged me very much.

I also feel as though I know more the needs of the family of Church Army. Therefore, I can both pray more effectively and assist more effectively the Church Army in the future.



## From Miss Pat Byron -

*"Several things impressed me about my stay.*

"A 'family' affair - *I felt very much part of a large family.*

"Dedication - *expressed so often in so many ways. Perhaps the incident which highlighted this aspect to me was a 'retired' Sister who spent the day of the Electives planning for a Bible Study and learning some new Bible Study techniques!*

"A passion for souls - *a burning desire to evangelise. Sometimes I suspect some felt that they were not able to exercise this aspect of their ministry as they would have liked, due to the nature of their present work.*

"Concern - *for the Church Army, reflected in the manner in which many Officers brought forward matters for consideration of the Conference. I believe this augurs well for the future of the work. Concerned questioning is healthy, I believe!*

"Meeting Officers and their families - *was a delight for me. I can now put faces to names.*

"Some apprehension - *on the part of some Officers about the future direction of the work.*

"Relaxation, fun and fellowship.

"Panic! - *with power to be turned off .. just when a film was to be shown in an Elective.*

- *when a little boy was lost.*

*"Many thanks to the Officers for allowing me to join them and for making me so welcome - at no time did I feel like a stranger or an intruder."*

## From Mark Rogers -

"Conference to me, as a student half-way through my College course, provided great motivation as I discovered more clearly what my calling as an evangelist entails. Meeting Officers for whom we had been praying, and placing faces to names enables me now to pray more intelligently for these Officers in our quiet time at College.

"The Electives that I chose on 'Effective Counselling' and 'Improving our Preaching' whetted my appetite to know more.

"Bishop Shearman's challenge to us, at the close of the Conference, to be changed like the Apostles at Pentecost from 'timid, fearful men' into 'God's dynamic preachers of the Gospel' really hit home to me, too, as I continue to share God's love and salvation in the situations He places me in."

Captain Chris Thiele

Miss Pat Byron

Mark Rogers, who accompanied our singing too.

# OUR FINANCIAL POSITION

For the information of our supporters, the following summary has been compiled from our Annual Balance Sheet and Statement of Accounts, for the year ended 30th June, 1977:

| TOTAL INCOME WAS | $193656 |
|---|---|
| Subscriptions and Donations | 21108 |
| Allocations | 6483 |
| Retiring Collections | 1593 |
| 'Pioneer' Subscriptions | 595 |
| Field Work | 108582 |
| Fees - Students | 4179 |
| Gross Profit - sale of books | 50865 |
| Interest | 251 |

| TOTAL EXPENDITURE WAS | $187434 |
|---|---|
| Salaries | 110598 |
| Training College | 13747 |
| Staff Welfare | 9461 |
| Office Expenses | 8340 |
| Bookshop Costs | 32718 |
| General Expenses & Travelling | 11027 |
| Depreciation | 1543 |

| This left a SURPLUS on operations of | | | $6222 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Legacies received | 2478 | | |
| Dividends from investments | 256 | 2734 | |
| Plus surplus | | 6222 | 8956 |
| Capital: At beginning of year | | | 109950 |
| | | | 118906 |

| FUNDS EMPLOYED WERE: | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Capital | | | 102289 |
| General Reserve | | | 12581 |
| Trusts | | | 7057 |
| | | | 121927 |
| EMPLOYMENT OF FUNDS: | | | |
| Fixed Assets - | | | |
| Land and Buildings | | | 89642 |
| Furniture, fittings, cars, van, etc. | | | 21762 |
| | | | 111404 |
| Investments - | | | |
| Shares at cost | | | 2863 |
| Current Assets - | | | |
| Stocks | 31358 | | |
| Deposits at Call | 701 | | |
| Cash at Bank (Bookshop) | 4278 | | |
| Trust Funds | 8832 | | |
| Debtors (Bookshop) | 6520 | | |
| | 51689 | | |
| DEDUCT: | | | |
| Current Liabilities - | | | |
| Bank Overdraft - General Account | 4717 | | |
| Trade Creditors | 8629 | | |
| Loans - interest free | 2650 | | |
| Car Finance Board | 5033 | | |
| Provision for Long Service Leave | 23000 | | |
| | 44029 | | |
| Current assets in excess of current liabilities | | | 7660 |
| | | | 121927 |

FRIDAY

*THE COLLEGE OF EVANGELISM:*

*The Principal,* The Rev. G.L. MacRobb, Mrs. MacRobb, Michael & Katrina.

*All Lecturers.*

*Candidates' Committee* and our need of suitable candidates.

*Second Year Students:* Wendy Ferguson, Mark Rogers, Len Taylor (N.Z.).

*First Year Students:* Jenny Dawson(N.Z.), Jenny Thompson, Carol Tokley, Phillip Jackson.

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# Points and Prayers

*In your prayers, please -*

PRAY FOR: * A Family Camp for Bellingen Parish, N.S.W., in May. Pray for Captain Kevin Cullen as he leads it.

* A Family Camp for Penrith Parish, N.S.W., 21 - 23 April. Pray for the Rev. Graeme MacRobb assisted by Students Wendy Ferguson and Mark Rogers.

* A Prayer Book Mission in Geelong, Vic., 28 - 30 April. Pray for the Missioner, the Rev. Graeme MacRobb.

* A Camp for Disabled Children, Springwood, N.S.W., 7 - 12 May. Pray for the Director, Sister Pat Free, and the many young people who will make up the large staff.

* A Mission Workshop, Parish of Eugowra, N.S.W., 30th June - 2nd July. Pray for the Missioner, the Rev. Graeme MacRobb.

* For young people who have indicated that they will be applying to enter our College next year - Robyn, Garry and Glen.

* The Meetings of our Executive Board at 12 noon on Fridays, 21st April, 16th June, 18th August, 20th October, 8th December.

## YOUR PEACE

Lord, it is good just to be with you in stillness. Your peace soaks into me and all the troubles of life get transformed most wonderfully. Why are all my times with you not like this? I do not forget the troubles of the world and of my friends, but they too are caught in the warmth of your peace, and surely like me, they must be changed by the beauty of it. Amen.

*(From "You Must Be Joking Lord" by Michael Hollings & Etta Gullick. Available from the Church Army Bookshop, address on page 12.*

*Some more "prayer" titles:- "It's Me, O Lord" - same author, "Prayers of Life", "Meet Christ and Live" - Michel Quoist, "Adventures in Prayer" - Catherine Marshall.)*

## A PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH ARMY:

Bless, O Lord, the work of the Church Army, to the conversion of sinners and the strengthening of the faithful. Endue its workers with the power of Your Holy Spirit, that they may witness faithfully, courageously, and consistently to the principles of Your Gospel and the faith of Your Church - for Jesus Christ's sake.

Amen.

# NEWS and NOTES

ADMITTING & COMMISSIONING: On Sunday 22nd January, many Church Army friends as well as Officers and their families joined the regular congregation at the 10.30 a.m. Service at St. Andrew's Cathedral, Sydney. They were there to support Sister Lyn Russell, who was admitted to the Office of Evangelist by Bishop Donald Shearman (on behalf of the Acting Primate) and commissioned as an Officer of the Church Army by the Federal Secretary.

As mentioned previously, Lyn has gone to work in the Parish of St. James' Toowoomba, Queensland.

CHRISTMAS APPEAL: *No doubt you will be as pleased and thankful as we are that the Christmas Appeal reached a record $3845.28. This is very encouraging to us at a time when, financially, we have gone out on a few "limbs" in faith.*

*We would like to thank all of you who responded to the Appeal, especially where you did not require a receipt or other acknowledgement.*

CAPTAIN BRIAN MATTINSON: As mentioned in the last issue, Captain Mattinson has joined the Staff of Federal Office.

This has led to a "new-look" interior to the Office, and involved us in moving all sorts of things, building shelves and painting. You see, Captain Mattinson's office used to be the broom cupboard, tea-making area, archives, equipment room and general storage area! The transformation is quite incredible.

MOVEMENTS: *Most of our Officers have stayed put for this new year of ministry. Apart from Captain Kevin Cullen (mentioned elsewhere), only Sister Flo Herman has moved recently - from the Parish of South Hurstville in the Diocese of Sydney. Flo is working for a short time with Captain John McKnight and his team at The Buttery, in northern New South Wales.*

DISCOVERY: This was the title of an 8 week after-school course for youngsters who wished to learn and experience more about what it means to be a follower of Jesus Christ.

The Leader? - Sister Lyn Bullard, pictured on the next page with some of the children who participated. Lyn is Chaplain to the girls at St. John's Hostel, Forbes, and youth and children's worker in the local Parish.

The 8 weeks were made up as follows:-

1. Discovering more about myself.
2. Discovering more about my brother.
3. Discovering more about God's world.
4. Discovering more about God's plan for me.
5. Discovering more about Jesus.
6. Discovering more about Jesus and me.
7. Do I need Him?
8. Where to from here?

NIGHTINGALES IN BERKLEY SQUARE?

*No, but ....*

*Church Army Students entertained the lunch-time crowds in Sydney Square, one day in December, with a half-hour programme of singing.*

*Situated between St. Andrew's Cathedral and the Town Hall, the Square is a busy thoroughfare and a popular place to relax and eat lunch.*

BURGMANN HOUSE HOSTEL, NEWCASTLE:

Through the energy and vision of the late Clive Burgmann, the Church Army became involved in hostels for apprentices and students in Newcastle.

The work which began in 1955 has now come to an end. Last year the Hostel Council had to reluctantly make the decision to close down. With ever-increasing costs, it became impossible to maintain the hostel work economically. Burgmann House is therefore being sold and the Council is looking at ways of utilising the proceeds to develop other aspects of Church Army ministry.



FEDERAL SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT - continued

*Interest-free Loans* - This welcome form of financial help remained unchanged during the year at $2,650.

*"Walter & Eliza Hall" Trust* - The help received from this Trust is invaluable and is greatly appreciated. The amounts received were $1250 towards the cost of Captain McKnight's work, $800 for the general work of the College, $250 for theological library books and an additional grant of $150 for audio-visual educational resources for the library.

*Legacies* -The Society again received financial help from legacies and the following were gratefully received:- from the estate of the late Captain Cecil Fisk $1,000, Z.I.F. Hillyard a final distribution of $539, C.G. Burns $85, C. Mason $825 and A.C. Dean $28 (income from legacy).

*THANKS:* The foremost expression of thanks is to God for His blessings and mercies and then to all who were led by His Spirit to support the work of our Society financially or in other ways.

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# THE CHURCH ARMY IN AUSTRALIA

P.O. BOX 107, FRENCH'S FOREST, N.S.W., 2086

PATRONS: The Archbishops and Bishops of Australia

EXECUTIVE BOARD: The Rev. Canon R.F. Gray (Chairman), Mr. R.H. Boyt, Mr. D. Coburn, the Rev. Canon J.N. Falkingham, the Rev. D.G. Livingstone, Miss P. Byron, Mr. R. Manuell, Mr. K. Alexander, Mr. G. Seton, the Rev. K.R. Le'Huray the Rev. J.R. Henderson, the Rev. B.J. Bevis, Mr. K. Llewellyn (Hon. Treas.), the Right Rev. D.N. Shearman, the Ven. N.J. Eley, Mr. C.C. Crittle.

FEDERAL OFFICE & COLLEGE: Wyatt Avenue, Belrose, N.S.W. Tel. 451.8395

FEDERAL SECRETARY: Captain R.L. Gwilt, C.A.

STAFF SISTER: Sister P.A. Free, C.A.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER & STAFF CAPTAIN: Captain B. Mattinson, C.A.

PRINCIPAL OF COLLEGE OF EVANGELISM: The Rev. G.L. MacRobb, Th.L., Dip.R.E., Dip. Min.

BOOKSHOPS: Tyrrell House, P.O. Box 784, Newcastle, N.S.W., 2300, Tel. 23160. 95 Prince Street, Grafton, N.S.W., 2460. 104 Donnison Street, Gosford, N.S.W. 2250.

MANAGER OF BOOKSHOPS: Captain N.A.R. Payne, C.A.

EDITOR OF "THE PIONEER": Sister P.A. Free, C.A.

THE WORLD WIDE CHURCH ARMY: The Church Army was founded in England in 1882, by Prebendary Wilson Carlile. It is a lay society of men and women Evangelists of the Anglican Communion. Other autonomous societies were founded in the U.S.A. in 1927, Canada 1928, Australia 1934, New Zealand 1935, Eastern Africa 1962, Jamaica 1969. Officers from some of these Societies are also at work in Germany, South America, South Africa, Belize, Cyprus, West Pakistan and Italy.